

National Recreation and Preservation/Statutory or Contractual Aid for Other Activities

JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE

Activity: Statutory or Contractual Aid for Other Activities
Subactivity: Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority

Program Component	1999 Estimate	Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	2000 Budget Request	Change From 1999 (+/-)
Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority	450	0	-450	0	-450
Total Requirements \$(000)	450	0	-450	0	-450

AUTHORIZATION

Public Law 105-83, Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998.

OVERVIEW

The NPS provides technical and financial assistance to the **Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority** in the implementation of the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Plan, which provides a comprehensive approach to preserving and interpreting the valley's important cultural, natural and recreational resources.

APPLICABLE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MISSION GOALS

- Ia Natural and cultural resources and associated values are protected, restored and maintained in good condition and managed within their broader ecosystem and cultural context.
- Ib The National Park Service contributes to knowledge about natural and cultural resources and associated values; management decisions about resources and visitors are based on adequate scholarly and scientific information.
- IIa Visitors safely enjoy and are satisfied with the availability, accessibility, diversity, and quality of park facilities, services, and appropriate recreational opportunities.
- IIb Park visitors and the general public understand and appreciate the preservation of parks and their resources for this and future generations.
- IIIa Natural and cultural resources are conserved through formal partnership programs.
- IIIb Through partnerships with other Federal, State, and local agencies and nonprofit organizations, a nationwide system of parks, open space, rivers, and trails provides educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people.

Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority
FY 1999 Estimated Program and Anticipated Accomplishments

Enacted: \$450,000

Legislative authority for the Lackawanna Heritage Area is linked to Public Law 99-591, which established Steamtown National Historic Site and called for the development of a comprehensive management plan and identified the need for the NPS to work cooperatively with other public and private agencies to interpret, conserve and manage the important cultural, natural and recreational resources of the Steamtown area. Funding was provided in 1989 and in 1990 to complete the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Plan. The plan is the basis for the work carried out by the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority and the Park Service's assistance.

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In 1999, the funding will be used to continue partnership projects with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, numerous local and regional organizations, and other Federal agencies to implement the approved Lackawanna Heritage Valley Plan. In 1999, major initiatives will include assistance and work on: the update of the 1993 Management Action Plan, the further development of the Trolley Museum, continuation of a valley-wide signage program, a valley marketing plan, extension of the heritage trail, local heritage planning efforts and support to various community heritage initiatives.

The Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority has recently completed design of the Lackawanna Trolley Museum, expanded the National Institute for Environmental Renewal, implemented the Carbondale Center Heritage Plan, helped convert the Olyphant Elementary School to low-income housing, made improvements to the Lackawanna Coal Mine and Anthracite Heritage Museum, developed a rail station in Jessup Borough, continued planning on other sections of the Lackawanna River Heritage Trail, developed forestry education programs, advocated mine land reclamation, worked on a Passport to History tourism strategy, and developed heritage education programs including the Young People's Heritage Festival and the Heritage Express.

FY 2000 BUDGET REQUEST

	2000 Budget Request	Program Changes (+/-)
▪ Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority	0	-450

▪ ***Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority (-\$450,000)***: The NPS is requesting the elimination of funding for the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority in FY 2000 to allow increased support for higher priority NPS programs. There is no clear authority for ongoing Federal support.